

## REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 10-15, and 19-26 were pending in the application. In response to the final office action, applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 10, 13, 19 and 22. Claims 1-6, 10-15, and 19-26 remain pending for reconsideration.

Claims 1, 10, and 19 are amended to better define the claimed subject matter. Claims 4, 13 and 22 are amended to put them in allowable form, since the Examiner has indicated that they contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,539,887 (Vandergrift). Claims 1-3, 5, 10-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 1,413,571 (Bronander) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,085,728 (Tomchak). Claims 6 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vandergrift in view of the publication allegedly made by Frass et al. (Fraas). Claims 19 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vandergrift in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,198,752 (Miyata). Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bronander in view of Tomchak, and further in view of Miyata et al. Claims 6, 15 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bronander in view of Tomchak further in view of Miyata et al., and further in view of Frass et al. Claims 4, 13 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants respectfully traverse the prior art rejections for the reasons set forth previously by Applicants, and also for at least the following reasons. The Applicants have proposed an amendment to the independent claims to recite that the at least two fluid paths have different predominant flow directions between the fluid inlet and the fluid outlet. The Applicants respectfully submit that this

feature is supported by the drawings, and that this feature is not disclosed in or suggested by any of the references relied upon by the Examiner.

Further, claims 4, 13 and 22 have been amended to be in independent form. Since the Examiner has indicated that these claims contain allowable subject matter, the Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable.

The Applicants respectfully request that the amendment to the claims be entered in order to move this application to allowance.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to initiate an interview with the undersigned by calling 815-885-1390 if the Examiner believes that such an interview will advance prosecution of this application.

### **Request for an Extension of Time**

Applicant respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be

necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0221 to cover any necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

**Charge our Deposit Account**

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

May 14, 2007

Date

/Robert D. Anderson/

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